

career Arnold has been known for his unwavering dedication to promoting health and well being for all members of our community. This year Arnold celebrates his retirement after more than a decade of service to the county and many more years of distinguished work here in the Bay Area.

Arnold holds a B.A. from San Francisco State University, his Teaching Credential from the University of California at Berkeley, and he completed Masters coursework at California State University, Hayward. Throughout the course of his distinguished career, Arnold has served our community as a high school teacher and principal; nonprofit organization executive director; family counselor and advocate; foundation program officer; college teacher and administrator; and restaurant owner and operator.

Arnold came to the Alameda County Public Health Department in 1994. As director he has provided leadership and management of the administrative program and policy activities of the department, which has a budget of \$105 million and over 500 employees, and serves a population of 1.4 million people. His professional expertise is supplemented by his diverse experience and deep commitment to building and maintaining the spirit of community.

Under Arnold's leadership, the department has undergone a number of changes that are making its functions reflective of a broader vision of public health. Some of the milestones that have marked Arnold's tenure as director include, but are certainly not limited to, establishing Community Health Teams, through which the department deployed field staff in 10 neighborhoods throughout the county to provide individual and population based services; establishing the Legislative Council, which develops the Health Department's legislative platform and supports the implementation of new policy; and working with my office, the office of Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson and many others to declare an HIV/AIDS State of Emergency in the African-American community. The AIDS pandemic is devastating African Americans and other communities of color, and women in particular in these groups. Arnold's leadership has been crucial in addressing these impacts here in Alameda County and making treatment, prevention and education available and accessible to those who need it most.

In addition to his stellar work leading the Public Health Department, Arnold has been and continues to be heavily involved in a number of other boards and organizations here in the Bay Area and nationally. He has served the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as a Member of the Advisory Committee for the National Center on HIV & STD Prevention as well as the Public Health Workforce 21st Century Taskforce. He has served as the President of the West Berkeley Health Center as well as the Chair of the Professional School of Psychology. Furthermore, Arnold has served with distinction as a board member within the San Francisco Foundation; the Family Violence Prevention Fund; Youth Radio; The Mentoring Center; United Way of the Bay Area, and many more organizations. Arnold has been recognized for his service with numerous awards from organizations such as the Center for Independent Living, the U.C. Berkeley School of Public Health, YMCA of the East Bay and Bay Area Strive for Five.

Today the friends, family and colleagues of Arnold Perkins have come together to celebrate not only his retirement, but also his legacy of service and his permanent and positive impact on our community. On this very special day, I join all of them in thanking and saluting Arnold for his profound contributions to California's 9th Congressional District, our country and our world.

ANOTHER PENTAGON SMEAR

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 22, 2007

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I am sometimes thankful for small things—for example, the fact that I am not in charge of judging what pronouncement from the Bush administration is the most outrageous. While I do not have to pick the winner, I do want to note an entry that would be a strong contender for that title: the extraordinarily wrong-headed and morally flawed attack by Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Cully Stimson on American lawyers who are defending people detained in Guantanamo. Not only does Mr. Stimson impugn people who have taken on an unpleasant job that is in the best traditions of the legal profession, and very much in the mainstream of American constitutional doctrine, he actually called on business leaders in this country to punish these lawyers economically for upholding these important American values.

As the Boston Globe editorial from January 16th points out, "the right to counsel is a pillar of the U.S. justice system" and the Globe correctly asserts that "Stimson's boss, Defense Secretary Robert Gates, should go beyond the Pentagon's pro forma disavowal of these remarks and ensure that Stimson watches this 'play out' from someplace other than a job at the Defense Department."

It is intolerable for a high public official of the United States Government to try to inflict economic harm on lawyers for upholding American constitutional tradition. Cully Stimson's blatant unfitness for an important public position ought to be clear to even officials of the Bush administration. It is incumbent on the President, Mr. Speaker, to repudiate these outrageous sentiments and to take the only action that can reassure lawyers in America that they will not suffer from doing their duty—firing Mr. Stimson.

[From the Boston Globe, Jan. 16, 2007]

ANOTHER PENTAGON SMEAR

When the shameful history of the Guantanamo detention center is finally written, one of the few reassuring chapters will be the way lawyers from many U.S. law firms have given pro-bono representation to prisoners who have been denied their Geneva Convention rights. It is especially outrageous that the Pentagon official responsible for detainees has maligned these lawyers and encouraged corporations to take their legal business away from their firms.

In an interview last Thursday, deputy assistant secretary of defense Cully Stimson said he found it "shocking" that lawyers from prestigious firms were representing Guantanamo detainees. "I think, quite honestly," Stimson said, "when corporate CEOs see that those firms are representing the very terrorists who hit their bottom line

back in 2001, those CEOs are going to make those law firms choose between representing terrorists or representing reputable firms, and I think that is going to have major play in the next few weeks. And we want to watch that play out."

Since the right to counsel is a pillar of the U.S. justice system, Stimson's boss, defense secretary Robert Gates, should go beyond the Pentagon's pro forma disavowal of these remarks and ensure that Stimson watches this "play out" from someplace other than a job at the Defense Department. Gates might also set the record straight by pointing out that the only inmates at Guantanamo suspected of links to the Sept. 11 attacks were brought there just recently, after long being held in secret Central Intelligence Agency prisons where they had no access to counsel whatsoever.

Twice, the Supreme Court has ruled that Guantanamo detainees' rights are being denied by the Bush administration in cases brought by the lawyers whom Stimson vilifies. In another case on behalf of Guantanamo detainees in 2005, U.S. District Judge Gladys Kessler said the petitioners' lawyers are acting "in the very finest tradition of the American legal profession." It was a tradition established in part by John Adams's representation of the British soldiers accused in the Boston Massacre of 1770.

Stimson's remarks came just as critics of U.S. detention policies were noting the fifth anniversary of the use of Guantanamo as a center for indefinite imprisonment of persons captured during the war in Afghanistan, or other fronts in the war on terrorism. The administration should close Guantanamo and try any detainees that it believes responsible for acts of terror or war crimes in U.S. courts.

Congress's new Democratic majorities should repeal the law passed last year that denies detainees their habeas corpus right to challenge their continued detention. That, like the right to counsel, is another mainstay of the American legal system that must not be a victim of the war on terror.

HONORING CHIEF MICHAEL P. NEUHAARD IN RETIREMENT

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 22, 2007

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Michael P. Neuhaard upon his retirement as Fire Chief and Fairfax County Fire Marshal for the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department.

Over the past 30 years Chief Michael Neuhaard has worked tirelessly to promote efforts that ensure the safety and well-being of the citizens of Fairfax County. During his career he has moved through the ranks of the department serving in such positions as assistant chief of administrative services, deputy chief of special operations, hazardous materials response team coordinator and head of hazardous materials services in the fire prevention division.

As Fire Chief and Fairfax County Fire Marshal, Chief Neuhaard oversees a staff of 1,678 personnel, 300 operational fire and EMS volunteers, and 36 fire stations. In this role he plans, coordinates, and directs the overall operation of the Fire and Rescue Department, which includes fire suppression, hazardous material abatement, emergency medical services, fire prevention, technical rescue, as well as administrative and support services.

Through service on numerous department, county, regional, state and national boards, Chief Neuhard has demonstrated his dedication to safety in his community. He is chair of his department's Strategic Planning Leadership Team, a member of the Fairfax County Domestic Violence Prevention Policy Coordinating Council, chair of the National Technology Transfer Center—Emergency Response Advisory Committee, as well as chairman of the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments Fire Chiefs Committee. Additionally, he has served on the Secure Commonwealth Panel since his appointment in 2002 by then-Governor Mark Warner.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to commend and congratulate Chief Michael P. Neuhard on all of his accomplishments. His efforts have boosted the overall safety and preparedness of the citizens of Fairfax County and the region. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding Chief Neuhard for his past accomplishments and in wishing him continued success in the years to come.

THE WATER QUALITY INVESTMENT ACT OF 2007

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 22, 2007

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, last week I was proud to introduce the Water Quality Investment Act of 2007, along with original cosponsors Congressmen DAVE CAMP and MIKE CAPUANO. This bipartisan legislation authorizes a \$3 billion grant program over 6 years to control combined sewer overflows and sanitary sewer overflows.

A combined sewer is a type of sewer system which provides partially separated channels for sanitary sewage and stormwater runoff. This allows the sanitary sewer system to provide backup capacity for the runoff sewer when runoff volumes are unusually high, but it is an antiquated system that is vulnerable to overflow during peak rainfall events. These overflows, called combined sewer overflows, CSOs, contain stormwater and untreated human and industrial waste, toxic materials, and debris that are very harmful to human health.

Combined sewer systems serve roughly 772 American communities containing about 40 million people. My home state of New Jersey has 31 combined sewer systems, with over 200 discharge points throughout the state. The EPA estimates that about 850 billion gallons of untreated wastewater and storm water are released as CSOs each year in the United States.

Because CSOs contain raw sewage along with large volumes of storm water and contribute pathogens, solids, debris, and toxic pollutants to receiving waters, CSOs can create significant public health and water quality concerns. CSOs have contributed to beach closures, shellfish bed closures, contamination of drinking water supplies, and other environmental and public health concerns.

A sanitary sewer overflow, SSO, occurs when raw sewage from municipal sanitary sewers unintentionally discharges, polluting our waters and backing up into basements. SSOs can be attributed to severe weather,

vandalism, and a variety of other causes. The EPA estimates that there are at least 40,000 SSOs every year. In 2003, New Jersey closed over 30,000 acres of classified shellfish growing areas in the Raritan Bay area due to a large SSO.

Upgrading these systems is extremely expensive. The EPA estimates that the total cost of repairing the country's combined sewer systems is nearly \$51 billion; the price tag for fixing U.S. sanitary sewer systems hovers around \$89 billion.

As the former mayor of Paterson, New Jersey, I fully understand the fiscal challenge that many municipalities face in meeting state and federal environmental standards. Many states find building or improving sewer infrastructure financially impossible without aid from the federal government. The Water Quality Investment Act of 2007 will help to alleviate this financial burden, so that municipalities are able to mitigate the harmful effects of CSOs and SSOs.

Madam Speaker, I urge Congress to enact this important legislation, so that we may help our communities provide a cleaner, safer environment for their citizens.

TRIBUTE TO OFFICERS CHRIS NELSON AND GARY WAGSTER

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 22, 2007

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, I stand before you today to honor the efforts of Kirkwood police officers Chris Nelson and Gary Wagster in their rescue of Ben Ownby and Shawn Hornbeck.

Because of these officers' keen skills, these young boys have been reunited to their families and may return to the business of growing up. By their efforts, Officers Nelson and Wagster have given hope to the many families who long for their children's homecoming.

The officers may say that they "simply did their job." However, Madam Speaker, this simply demonstrates the importance and value of the police officers who serve and protect our communities.

Officers Chris Nelson and Gary Wagster are every day heroes, and I am honored to recognize their great work.

I thank them both for their service to our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. MYRENE LAW

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 22, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Myrene Law of North Richland Hills, Texas, who celebrated her 103rd birthday on January 16, 2007.

Born on January 16, 1904 in Fort Worth, Texas, Ms. Myrene Law was an only child raised by her aunt, Rose Melton Twining. She attended Central High School, now Paschal High School, and graduated from a local business college to acquire skills needed as a

legal stenographer. She grew up in a time when newspaper carriers shouted out the news and people listened to radios as a form of entertainment. Ms. Law met her husband, Nugent Law, when she was 12 years old; they were married in 1926. The Laws had a daughter, Rosemary Law, who passed away at a very young age, and a son, Leroy Law, who is now 67 years old.

In 1944, the couple moved to North Richland Hills, Texas, into a house in the Smithfield area where she remained until faltering eyesight forced her to move into a retirement community at 96 years of age. As a stenographer, she worked a myriad of jobs. Ms. Law first worked for a real estate agent, then 4 years for a law firm, 6 years for the legal department of Sinclair Oil Company, and for 10 years at General Dynamics. Initially attempting to retire at age 65, she decided to work for a "lady journalist" the following week, using a typewriter to transcribe recordings for Jane Pattie of Aledo, an author of historical books on cowboy and American Indian facts and legends. Ms. Law later retired again at age 83.

An avid listener of audio books, Ms. Myrene Law has a friend take her to the North Richland Hills Public Library every other week to check out books on cassette, her favorite of which are mysteries. Another friend faithfully takes her to church on Sundays. In addition to being a church and library regular, she also enjoys listening to sermons and news programs on the radio, keeping friends updated on the weather, sharing information on her family, and telling jokes.

I extend my utmost congratulations to Ms. Myrene Law on her recent 103rd birthday, and I join her family and friends in wishing her well in the year 2007. She is a blessing to our community and I am proud to serve as her representative.

HONORING THE HONORABLE ROBERT S. CHALK OF LAKE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 22, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend Robert Chalk on the occasion of his retirement after 32 years of service as a Sheriff Deputy, Police Officer and Chief of Police in Lake County and Clearlake, California. Mr. Chalk has served his community with distinction. His commitment to running an open, citizen-oriented department will long be remembered.

Mr. Chalk began his career in law enforcement in 1975 as a new hire with the Lake County Sheriff's Department. For the last 25 years he has worked for the Clearlake Police Department, rising from Patrol Officer to Sergeant and then Lieutenant before being appointed Chief of Police in 1993. During this time he has also been immensely involved with local law enforcement groups, including 13 years as President of the Lake County Law Enforcement Chief's Association. During his tenure as Chief, Mr. Chalk has overseen a sharp reduction in crime rates in and around Clearlake. His strength of character and affection for his community has been reflected in the work he has accomplished as Chief of Police.